HYDRIC SOILS

GENERAL

Hydric soils are soils that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part (1) (2) (3) (4). The concept of hydric soils includes soils developed under sufficiently wet conditions to support the growth and regeneration of hydrophytic vegetation. Soils that are sufficiently wet because of artificial measures are included in the concept of hydric soils. Also, soils in which the hydrology has been artificially modified are hydric if the soil, in an unaltered state, was hydric. Some series, designated as hydric, have phases that are not hydric depending on water table, flooding, and ponding characteristics.

For a specific definition and criteria of a hydric soil, go to the internet address listed below or refer to the publications Field Indicators Of Hydric Soil In The United States or Field Indicators Of Hydric Soils In The Mid-Atlantic United States. For a list of hydric soils for West Virginia go to the internet address listed below (5).

NASIS

1. Using the NASIS select manager, load the area, correlated legend, and data mapunits for the survey area
2. On the menu bar, select Options, then Standard Reports
3. Click on the National button or Local button
4. Select the report named PGRM - Hydric Soils List (National button) or WV - Hydric Soils (Local button)

REFERENCES

(1) http://www.statlab.iastate.edu:80/soils/hydric/intro.html
(2) National Soil Survey Handbook, section 622-4
(3) Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the U.S., version 4.0
(4) Field Indicators of Hydric Soils In The Mid-Atlantic U.S.
(5) http://www.statlab.iastate.edu/soils/hydric/state.html